

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-28 (Cancelled)

29 (Original) A method of coating selected portions of a bearing component, comprising the steps of:

positioning a first bearing component within a housing, the housing having a bottom end and having a first seal between the bottom end of the housing and the bearing component; the first seal sized to provide a seal against an inner surface of the housing and covering a first sidewall of the first bearing component;

positioning a second seal above a second sidewall of the bearing component, the second seal sized to provide a seal against an inner surface of the housing and covering the second sidewall of the first bearing component;

compressing the seals such that the first and second sidewalls and an outer surface of the bearing component are sealed from an inner portion of the housing;

applying a coating to an inner surface of the bearing component.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising the steps, prior to the compressing step, of:

positioning one or more additional bearing components having sidewalls within the housing;

positioning one or more additional seals between the sidewalls of the one or more additional bearing components, the one or more additional seals sized to provide a seal against the inner surface of the housing.

31. (Original) A method of coating selected portions of a bearing component, comprising the steps of:

positioning a first bearing component within a housing, the housing having a bottom end and having a first seal between the bottom end of the housing and the bearing component; the first seal sized to provide a seal against a first sidewall of the first bearing component; 1 is provided between the first and second sidewalls of the bearing component;

applying a coating to an inner surface and an outer surface of the bearing component.